

Theater By Women  
**renaissance**  
T H E A T E R W O R K S  
For Everyone

**For Immediate Release**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**RENAISSANCE THEATERWORKS**

**ANNOUNCES 2021/22 SEASON – FIRST FULL SEASON AT THEIR NEW ARTISTIC HOME WITH PLAYS THAT HIGHLIGHT “WHAT REALLY MATTERS”.**

**MILWAUKEE, Wis. (June 8, 2021)** –Renaissance Theaterworks is excited to announce their 2021-2022 season, the first full season at the 255 S Water Street Theatre, with the plays originally lined up for their 2020-2021 season: **THE CAKE**, by Bekah Brunstetter; **ACTUALLY**, by Anna Ziegler, and **MUTHALAND**, written and performed by Minita Gandhi. Renaissance Theaterworks’ season will kick off with the Br!NK New Play Festival, on stage Tuesday, September 7 and Wednesday, September 8, 2021.

Artistic Director Suzan Fete shares, “We are so excited to mount the plays that we were so eager to produce last year. Times have changed so much, but the topics covered in THE CAKE, ACTUALLY and MUTHALAND are more relevant than ever.”

Managing Director Lisa Rasmussen adds, “The time is finally coming! We cannot wait to welcome our friends to our new, well-appointed artistic home at 255 South Water Street. Thank you for your support during one of the most difficult seasons we’ve experienced as a company, an industry and a society. We are thrilled to be able to employ artists, contribute to deep connection and conversation and bring back what’s important to folks in our community.”

## RENAISSANCE THEATERWORKS

### 2021-2022 Season Lineup

For 29 seasons, Renaissance Theaterworks has promoted the work of women in theater onstage and off, and will continue to do so with a season that highlights **What Really Matters – Identity, Belonging, Connection** and a bold, edgy, thought-provoking lineup of theater, including **THE CAKE**, a comedy about what divides us and brings us together, and the power of love – and cake; **ACTUALLY**, a smart, profound exploration of the culture of sexual consent in the college environment; and **MUTHALAND**, a play based on actual events about a young Indian American woman’s journey of discovering her own voice. The 2021-2022 season kicks off with the **EIGHTH Br!NK NEW PLAY FESTIVAL**, September 7 and 8, 2021. This will be Renaissance Theaterworks’ first full season at their new artistic home at the 255 S Water Street Theatre.

### THE CAKE

By Bekah Brunstetter

Directed by Suzan Fete

October 22 – November 14, 2021

Della, a sweet, God-fearing Christian, is also the best baker in North Carolina. Nothing would make Della happier than making a wedding cake for her best friend’s daughter, Jenny. Except that Della’s beloved Jenny is marrying a woman. A deliciously funny, multi-layered play about what divides us and brings us together, and the power of love – and cake.

*The Cake’s gentleness feels almost reassuring in this era of nasty political and cultural divides.*  
~Hollywood Reporter

### ACTUALLY

By Anna Ziegler

Directed by Mary MacDonald Kerr

March 11 – April 3, 2022

Tom and Amber are college freshmen at Princeton. They are overwhelmed, overstimulated, sleep-deprived, surrounded by strangers, uncertainty and alcohol. What could possibly go wrong? A smart, profound exploration of the culture of sexual consent. A perfectly complex tale for our #MeToo Age.

*[ACTUALLY] effectively questions a lot of dangerous lessons that young adults absorb about body image, sex, drinking, consent and responsibility, even in the ranks of higher education.* ~The Washington Post

## MUTHALAND

Written and Performed by Minita Gandhi

Directed by Lavina Jadhvani

May 13 – June 5, 2022

A trip to her homeland forever changes the life of a young Indian-American woman. On her journey, she unearths family secrets, encounters a prophet, and discovers her voice within a culture of silence. A powerful, transformative story based on actual events. A play about a young Indian American woman's journey of discovering her own voice.

*Wry, wise and sometimes terrifying... Gandhi's "Muthaland" creates a funny, brash and truthful portrait of embracing one's past without being smothered by it. ~The Chicago Tribune*

## EIGHTH ANNUAL Br!NK NEW PLAY FESTIVAL

The Renaissance Theaterworks' Br!NK Award is presented annually to Midwestern women playwrights to develop and advance their work. Now in its eighth year, Br!NK continues to expand opportunities for women playwrights in week-long workshops followed by a staged production.

Renaissance Theaterworks' 2021 Br!NK NEW PLAY FESTIVAL will take place on September 7 and 8, 2021. The Festival will showcase two new full-length plays. For more information about the Br!NK New Play Festival, visit our website at <https://www.r-t-w.com/brink/>.

## General Season Information

Season subscriptions are currently available and single tickets will go on sale in September, 2021. For more information, visit [www.r-t-w.com](http://www.r-t-w.com).

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## ABOUT RENAISSANCE THEATERWORKS

Renaissance Theaterworks, "Theater by Women for Everyone", is **Milwaukee's only women-founded, women-run professional theater company**. Dedicated to promoting the work of women onstage and off, Renaissance Theaterworks creates **theater that connects with all people – and what it means to be human – through vibrant, visceral storytelling**. Founded in 1993 by Suzan Fete, Marie Kohler, Raeleen McMillion, Jennifer Rupp and Michele Traband, Renaissance Theaterworks is the nation's **second oldest** theater company with a mission to promote **gender equity in theater**. Renaissance Theaterworks produces **outstanding, artistically unsurpassed theater that makes audiences feel more, think harder, and laugh louder**.

## **NEW ARTISTIC HOME**

Renaissance Theaterworks permanently **moved its artistic home to 255 S. Water Street**, sharing the space with Next Act Theatre. **Administrative offices** remain on the 5th floor of the Broadway Theatre Center.

*Renaissance Theaterworks is a member of the National New Play Network, Theater Wisconsin, Milwaukee Theater Alliance, Samuel French's Playwrights Welcome, Hispanic Professionals of Greater Milwaukee, Visit Milwaukee, and the Historic Third Ward Association. They receive support from the United Performing Arts Fund, Brico Fund, CAMPAC, The Greater Milwaukee Foundation, the Richard & Ethel Herzfeld Foundation, Milwaukee Arts Board, Sempercor Foundation, the Shubert Foundation, the Bert L. and Patricia S. Steigleder Charitable Trust, Wisconsin Arts Board, and private donors and foundations.*

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